

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 03579 171837Z
ACTION HUD-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 L-03 /023 W
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P 171522Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5221
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY

UNCLAS MOSCOW 3579

DEPT PASS HUD FOR STEGALL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH, UR, US, RO,
SUBJECT: US-USSR HOUSING AGREEMENT: VISIT TO ROMANIA OF MEMBERS
OF HUD DELEGATION IN MOSCOW ON EXCHANGE VISIT

REF: (A) STATE 55039, (B) STATE 54512

1. THREE MEMBERS OF HUD DELEGATION CURRENTLY IN SOVIET UNION UNDER WORKING GROUP 10.02, FULLER, BELL, AND FINTEL, HAVE REQUESTED EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN FACILITATING TRAVEL TO BUCHAREST FROM MOSCOW MARCH 19. FULLER PLANS TO JOIN AID-SPONSORED TEAM LED BY CHARLES CULVER (PER REFTELS); FINTEL AND BELL PLAN PRIVATE VISITS.

2. EMBASSY HAS OBTAINED TICKETING TO BUCHAREST FOR FULLER. HE WILL ARRIVE BUCHAREST 1025 HOURS SATURDAY, MARCH 19, VIA AEROFLOT FROM MOSCOW.

3. DELEGATION MEMBERS WILL BE UNABLE TO OBTAIN ROMANIAN VISAS IN MOSCOW BEFORE DEPARTURE FOR BUCHAREST MARCH 19. ROMANIAN CONSUL IN MOSCOW ADVISES THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN VISAS AT AIRPORT UPON ARRIVAL IN BUCHAREST (FOR SUM OF U.S. TEN DOLLARS FOR EACH DAY IN ROMANIA) AND DELEGATION MEMBERS THEREFORE PLAN TO FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE. ROMANIAN VISAS WILL NOT BE OBTAINED IN MOSCOW BEFORE MARCH 19 BECAUSE
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DELEGATION SCHEDULE INCLUDED ONLY ONE WORKING DAY IN MOSCOW, FRIDAY, MARCH 11. DELEGATION MEMBERS DID NOT WISH TO INTERRUPT MEETING WITH SOVIET COUNTERPARTS THAT DAY TO VISIT ROMANIAN EMBASSY TO SEEK VISAS AND CONTACTED EMBASSY WITH REQUEST FOR VISA ASSISTANCE TOO LATE IN THE DAY FOR EMBASSY TO OBTAIN THEIR PASSPORTS, TAKE THE NECESSARY VISA PHOTOGRAPHS, AND ATTEMPT TO INTERCEDE WITH THE ROMANIAN CONSUL ON THEIR BEHALF. DELEGATION SUBSEQUENTLY VISITED

LENINGRAD, IS NOW IN TASHKENT, AND WILL RETURN TO MOSCOW LATE EVENING FRIDAY, MARCH 18. IF DELEGATION MEMBERS COULD HAVE LEFT PASSPORTS IN MOSCOW DURING THIS TIME, EMBASSY WOULD HAVE ATTEMPTED TO OBTAIN VISAS FOR THEM IN THEIR ABSENCE, BUT, AS HUD IS AWARE, DELEGATION MEMBERS MUST CARRY PASSPORTS WITH THEM WHILE TRAVELLING IN USSR. PLEASE INFORM MEMBERS OF FUTURE DELEGATIONS THAT EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT VISITORS TO MOSCOW OBTAIN THE VISAS NECESSARY FOR THEIR ONWARD TRAVEL BEFORE THEIR DEPARTURE FROM THE US.

4. FOR BUCHAREST: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE INFORMATION THAT THE PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING ENTRY VISAS AT AIRPORT ON ARRIVAL BUCHAREST IS CURRENTLY IN EFFECT. PLEASE ADVISE.
TOON

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